

## Message Text

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ACTION MCT-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SY-05 USSS-00 DHA-02 FBIE-00

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 L-03 H-02 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 AID-05 ARA-14 PRS-01 PA-02

SP-02 EURE-00 SS-15 /072 W

-----103457 191722Z /46

O 191628Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2711

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS LISBON 6452

ROME FOR LEGATT, RSO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: KIDNAPS IN PORTUGAL

REF: (A) LISBON 6408, (B) LISBON 6361

1. LISBON AUG 19 MORNING PRESS REPORTED SECOND KIDNAPPING CASE. FOLLOWING IS UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF REPORT FROM "DIARIO DE NOTICIAS" NEWSPAPER OF LISBON:

2. HEADLINE WAS "POLICE INVESTIGATE: FOREIGNER KIDNAPPED IN PORTUGAL." ARTICLE TEXT FOLLOWS: THE JUDICIAL POLICE ARE INVESTIGATING, WITH THE GREATEST SECRECY, THE DISAPPEARANCE IN PORTUGAL OF A FOREIGNER WHOSE CASE POSSIBLY IS LINKED WITH THE KIDNAPPING OF NICARAGUAN ARCHITECT JOSE BAEZ AVILES IN EARLY JULY FROM THE HOTEL ESTORIL-SOL IN CASCAIS. IN A COMMUNIQUE RELEASED REGARDING THIS SECOND DISAPPEARANCE, THE POLICE STATED THAT "IT IS NOT POSSIBLE NOW TO REVEAL MORE DETAILS RELATED TO THE FACTS OF THE CASE, IN ORDER NOT TO PREJUDICE INVESTIGATION."

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THE POLICE STATED THAT THEY "CONTINUE TO DEVOTE THE GREATEST ATTENTION AND EFFORT TO CLARIFY THE EVENTS." IT IS REMEMBERED THAT THE DISAPPEARANCE OF JOSE BAEZ AVILES WAS ONLY REVEALED LAST WEEK, THROUGH NEWS REPORTS FROM MADRID WHICH ATTRIBUTED THE KIDNAPPING TO A GROUP OF ITALIAN GUERRILLAS. THE SAME SOURCES ADDED THAT THE ARCHITECT'S FAMILY HAD RECEIVED DEMANDS FOR A 500,000

DOLLAR RANSOM.

SUCH A SUM LEADS TO THE BELIEF, IN THE OPINION OF THE FAMILY OF THE NICARAGUAN WHO DISAPPEARED, THAT THIS KIDNAPPING WAS A CASE OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY. THE BAEZ AVILES FAMILY DOES NOT HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO PAY THE RANSOM. ANY POLITICAL MOTIVATIONS ALSO APPEAR UNLIKELY, BECAUSE THE ARCHITECT HAD NO TIES AT ALL TO THE GOVERNMENT OF HIS COUNTRY.

AS FOR THE SECOND FOREIGNER WHO HAS NOW DISAPPEARED IN PORTUGAL, IT IS NOT KNOWN WHY THE JUDICIAL POLICE ARE LINKING THIS WITH THE KIDNAPPING OF THE NICARAGUAN ARCHITECT.

THE COMMUNIQUE MENTIONED ABOVE ONLY RAISED THIS POSSIBILITY WITHOUT DRAWING THAT CONCLUSION.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH NOT CONFIRMED BY PORTUGUESE POLICE AT THIS TIME, THE NEWS ARTICLE MOST PROBABLY REFERS TO THE SITUATION REPORTED IN REF B. CARLUCCI

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
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